

CLAIMS

1. A delivery system for nicotine comprising nicotine encapsulated in a microcapsule system which releases the encapsulated nicotine on contact of the microcapsules with a nicotine solvent.
2. A nicotine delivery system according to claim 1, in which the nicotine solvent comprises fatty tissue of the buccal cavity.
3. A nicotine delivery system according to claim 1 or claim 2, in which the microcapsules comprise yeast cells.
4. A nicotine delivery system according to claim 3, comprising a mixture of cells charged with nicotine and diluent, empty cells.
5. A nicotine delivery system according to any one of claims 1 to 4, presented in a solid carrier from the surface of which microcapsules are gradually released for controlled delivery.
6. A system according to claim 5, in which the solid carrier comprises a saliva-soluble or dispersible substance.
7. A system according to claim 6, in which the solid carrier comprises a lozenge.
8. A system according to claim 7, in which the lozenge is sugar-based.

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9. A system according to claim 7 or claim 8, having such a size, solubility and charge of nicotine that it delivers, in use over a time period between 4 and 20 minutes, an amount of nicotine equivalent to that delivered by a cigarette.

10. A system according to claim 9, in which the lozenge is elongate, between 5 and 20 cm in length and snappable as by having preferential snapping positions into a number of portions each capable of comfortable accommodation in the mouth.

11. A system according to claim 5, in which the solid carrier comprises a chewing gum.

12. A system according to any one of claims 1 to 11, comprising a flavouring substance.

13. A system according to claim 23, in which the flavouring substance is also encapsulated in a microcapsule system.

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14. A system according to any one of claims 1 to 13, comprising a vitamin supplement.

15. A system according to claim 14, in which the vitamin is also encapsulated in a microcapsule system.

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16. A system according to any one of claims 1 to 4, comprised in a patch.

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